

From: Gaarde
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: microsoft settlement

Digital Research
Quarterdeck
Netscape

Almost Symantec... If you can't beat them or buy them... crush them.

Microsoft has deeper pockets than the competition. They don't need to compete. They just buy the competition or sue them so much the competition must spend all their venture capital on Lawyers instead of R&D. If this is allowed to happen to even one company, it hurts the industry. Unfortunately, the old cronies in 'power' (congress and senate) don't have a clue about these 'new fangled computer thingies.' How can one make laws based on something they know little or nothing about?

You want to make new laws to stop Microsoft from doing this stuff in the future? Can you say grandfather clause? The damage is already done. How about laws that SEVERELY PUNISH EVERY individual within ANY company that is caught doing ANYTHING unethical. Oh yea... that's right... then you won't get your new library.... just another form of a bribe. Hide behind the truth and call it standard business practice.

I can't count the number of times I have heard of unethical business practices Microsoft uses from reputable sources. Yet somehow, the Justice department ALWAYS looks the other way. Hrmmm... Kick backs, bribes... having daddy's law-firm purchase judges. Don't pretend 'the system' is uncorruptable. Shall I bring up ballot stuffing? Yea... they were caught on that one too... but as usual... Microsoft buys its freedom.

At what point does the unethical business practices get deemed too much? How much harm must an industry have done to it before the bribes and kickbacks are no longer effective?

The DOJ broke up AT&T... it didn't help... it slowed them down a few years. Now they have a monopoly on Cable-modem access. Breaking up companies with deep pockets doesn't help.

Public funds should go into public research and development... not some proprietary software companies pockets. PUBLIC service... not private service.

What message are we sending future generations? "It's ok to be unethical and irresponsible as long as you have a lot of money and can hide behind a corporate name."

The people have cried out time and time again... but the cronies' ears are

deaf. Revolution, not reform.

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"To thine own self be true." - Shakespeare

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